

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile communication system comprising:
 - a mobile station;
 - a base station disposed in each of service areas for performing radio communication with the mobile station positioned in each of service areas;
 - a base station controller having channel station data indicative of whether there is a channel between a mobile switching center as a master station thereof and another mobile switching center, said base station controller having means for, when a hand-off control process is to be performed via said mobile switching center as the master station while communicating with said mobile terminal through said base station, determining whether said mobile switching center as the master station has a channel connected to the other mobile switching center or not based on said channel station data, and, if said mobile switching center as the master station has a channel connected to the other mobile switching center, requesting a hand-off control process as a process for switching communication channels for communication with said mobile station; and
 - a mobile switching center as the master station of said base station controller, for performing a hand-off control process between itself and said other

25 mobile switching center when said hand-off control
process is requested.

2. A mobile communication system comprising:

a mobile station;

one or more base stations disposed in each of
service areas for performing radio communication with the

5 mobile station positioned in each of service areas;

one or more base station controllers serving
as a master station of said one or more base stations and
having channel station data indicative of whether there
is a channel between a mobile switching center as a
10 master station thereof and another system mobile
switching center in another system of different
specifications, said one or more base station controllers
having means for, when a hand-off control process is to
be performed via said mobile switching center as the
15 master station while communicating with said mobile
terminal through said base station during an inter-base-
station-controller soft hand-off control process,
determining whether said mobile switching center as the
master station has a channel connected to the other
20 system mobile switching center or not based on said
channel station data, and, if said mobile switching
center as the master station has a channel connected to
the other system mobile switching center, requesting an

inter-system hand-off control process as a process for
25 switching communication channels between said mobile
station and said other system mobile switching center to
said mobile switching center as the master station, and,
if said mobile switching center as the master station
does not have a channel connected to the other system
30 mobile switching center, requesting an intra-system hand-
off control process between said mobile station and the
mobile switching center in a home system; and

one or more interconnected mobile switching
centers serving as a master station of at least one of
35 said one or more base station controllers, for performing
said hand-off control process in a home system when the
intra-system hand-off control process is requested, at
least one of said one or more interconnected mobile
switching centers having a communication channel
40 connected to the other system mobile switching center,
for performing a predetermined hand-off control process
between itself and said other system mobile switching
center when said inter-system hand-off control process is
requested.

3. A mobile communication system according to
claim 2, further comprising a communication channel
between only a mobile switching center adjacent to a

service area of the other system including an overlay and
5 said other system mobile switching center.

4. A mobile communication system according to
claim 3, wherein said mobile switching center comprises
means for, when said intra-system hand-off control
process is requested, selecting a mobile switching center
5 in the home system which has a communication channel
connected to said other system mobile switching center,
and performing a hand-off control process between itself
and the selected mobile switching center.

5. A mobile communication system according to
claim 2, wherein said home system comprises a mobile
communication system according to code division multiple
access principles.

6. A mobile communication system according to
claim 3, wherein said home system comprises a mobile
communication system according to code division multiple
access principles.

7. A mobile communication system according to
claim 4, wherein said home system comprises a mobile
communication system according to code division multiple
access principles.